

SITTING

Defiant Joe: I'll rebuild Coney now!



ON THE RECORD

Coney Island landowner Joe Sitt finally sat down with *The Brooklyn Paper*. Here are the highlights:

- Sitt says Bloomberg has been his toughest foe: "We've gotten people motivated, excited and interested in Coney Island... and for six and a half years, we've hit a brick wall with the city."
- He dismissed critics who said he's done nothing with his land in Coney Island: "It's more active this year than it's been in 20 years."
- His financial officer says he's got the cash to build his proposed Xanadu of hotels, new rides and retail stores right now: "We have the capital and we have a team of experts," said Gwen Lockhart.
- He thinks Bloomberg will fail: "I've never seen government succeed as a developer anywhere in the world."

with JOE SITT

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Coney Island's would-be savior, Joe Sitt, broke a two-year silence to skewer the city's controversial Coney Island redevelopment plan, just as Mayor Bloomberg's rezoning proposal got a rubber stamp from the City Planning Commission on Wednesday.

The planning body approved the mayor's plan to rezone much of the faded "People's Playground" in hopes of stimulating the construction of a glitzy amusement park and 4,500 apartments. The total cost of the project is unknown, but land acquisition and infrastructure alone will cost taxpayers hundreds of millions — an investment the city says is necessary to rehabilitate one of the poorer residential communities in the city.

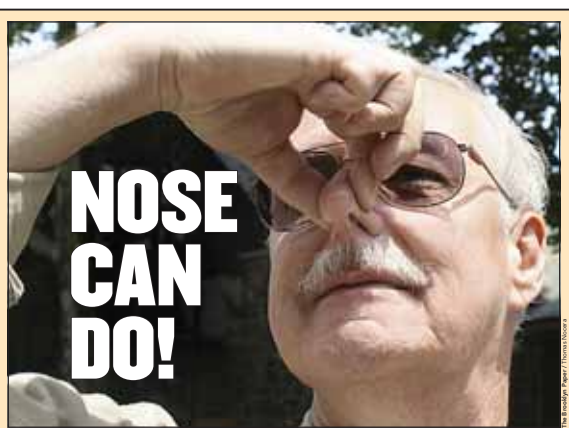
But Sitt, who owns 10-1/2 acres of land that the mayor needs, says his version of an all-year Xanadu of rides, hotels and shopping (pictured) is better and could actually be built.

"The whole concept of the government taking over the site and building it... and then dealing with the state is mind-boggling," Sitt told *The Brooklyn Paper*.

But city officials took a slap right back at the would-be developer, whose land once housed the Astrodon theme park, which closed last year.

"At this critical juncture, with the amusements shrinking and the peninsula strewn with vacant lots, our vote today advances our only opportunity to help Coney Island reclaim its mantle as the world's greatest open, affordable and accessible, urban amusement park," City Planning Commission Chairwoman Amanda Burden said on Wednesday.

See **CONEY** on page 6



Bill Graves says the sewage stink of Fort Hamilton Parkway has not been solved. Obviously.

Ridgites: Hire schnozz to stop stink

By Ben Muessig
and Thomas Nocera
The Brooklyn Paper

"This one stinks all the way to the top!"

Bay Ridge residents claim the only thing that smells worse than the putrid odors wafting from sewer grates on a notoriously bad-smelling stretch of Fort Hamilton Parkway is the city's failure to snuff the rancid reek so they're hoping that a hired nose will be able to sniff out the problem.

Bay Ridge's Community Board 10 voted unanimously on Monday to urge local politi-

cians to bring in a paid proboscis to determine the source of the mysterious odor, which has plagued the neighborhood since the city spent \$6.9 million in 2006 to connect sewer lines between Marine Avenue and 99th Street.

"It is really sad how these homeowners are suffering," said CB10 Environmental Committee Chairman Greg Ahl. "An outside expert should be called in."

The Department of Environmental Protection has repeatedly investigated the odor — which can be so bad that one Fort Hamilton Parkway resident is considering mov-

ing away to escape the stink — but so far the agency has been unable to find a stanch for the stench.

"The Department of Environmental Protection continues to work to solve this matter and we apologize for the inconvenience this may cause for the community," said spokeswoman Mercedes Padilla, whose agency attempted to hinder the repugnant reek in 2007 by placing nylon socks filled with pine deodorizer in the sewer.

But those socks — like most socks — did

See **STINK** on page 6

The not-as-green market

City kicks out grass-killing McCarren Park vendors

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

The produce sellers in McCarren Park's farmers market certainly have green thumbs — but the city says they've also got blood on their hands.

The blood of innocent blades of grass, that is.

The Parks Department is planning to uproot the popular Greenmarket from the corner of Bedford Avenue and Lorimer Street and plant it on the asphalt of Union Avenue because the farmers' tents, tables, and customers have turned patches of grass into plots of dirt.

"The grass is in very bad condition over there — very brown and compacted — so

we'd like to spruce up that area by re-seeding the park's entrance," said Parks spokesman Phil Abramson, who confirmed that his agency is planning to close the block between Bayard and Driggs to traffic to make room for the produce sellers.

"Every other Greenmarket in the city is on a paved area," he added. "We suggested they relocate to a paved area in the park."

But many of McCarren Park's fruit, vegetable, bread, honey, cheese and condiment merchants say the grass won't be as green on Union Avenue — and not just because they'll be located on a paved street.

"I'm very disappointed in the

move, because I really feel like we've been an instrumental part in creating the vibrant community that is there now," said Justine Bossert of Red Jacket Orchards, who worried that the welcoming environment would be stifled by the concrete jungle.

"If we're outside of the park, it would completely disrupt the sort of community atmosphere that has developed where people sit down around us and hang out," he added. "It would be very unappealing to sit down on asphalt."

Farmers also said they prefer the current location — which is near bustling Bedford and Manhattan avenues as well as the Nassau Avenue G train station

— because it draws in a steady stream of visitors. They doubt that the proposed location — on a street that bisects the park and is near the Park's Greendone Garden, community supported agricultural cooperative, outdoor concession stand, and handball and bocce courts — will attract as many shoppers.

Greenmarkets Director Michael Hurwitz told *The Brooklyn Paper* that moving the market to a new location is not an "insurmountable challenge," but farmers fear the move because past relocations have been accompanied by sales droughts.

"In the short term, any move of a market means that we are

See **GRASS** on page 6



The city wants to kick McCarren Park's popular farmer's market out of the greenspace because the tents have allegedly killed grass.

Pleading the Fifth

Merchants want to get rid of bike lane

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Fifth Avenue ain't wide enough for the both of us. That's the message merchants gave cyclists this week after calling on the city to change the busy commercial strip's bike-only paths into less-protective shared lanes.

Neighborhood shopkeepers claim that the delineated cycling lanes that run on both sides of Fifth Avenue between Canal and 24th streets leave drivers and deliverymen with little room to double-park — causing traffic back-ups and making deliveries a daily debacle.

"When people double-park, they have to park outside the bike lane and that brings traffic to a dead stop," said Irene LoRe, director of the Fifth Avenue Business Improvement District and the owner of Aunt Suzie's restaurant.

LoRe is calling for shared lanes, which are typically implemented on roadways too narrow for traditional bike lanes, like Fifth Avenue north of Carroll Street. Marked with chevrons instead of painted lane barriers, the shared lanes require cyclists to ride amidst automotive traffic.

LoRe's proposal gained traction with Community 6 District Manager Craig Hammerman.

"The bike lane enhances safety and security for the bicyclists, but right now, businesses are unable to conduct their business," said Hammerman, who sent a memo to the Department of Transportation encouraging the agency to consider converting the lanes into shared paths.

The proposal — which was first reported on the trans-

See **FIFTH** on page 6

Signs of life at Brooklyn Bridge 'Park'



These trees at the Brooklyn Bridge Park waterfront development are slated to be planted later this year.

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

The proposed Brooklyn Bridge Park showed new signs of life last week as officials moved to take the reins of its first piece of actual parkland — the existing Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park.

The management breakthrough came weeks after the first signs of life — literal life — took root on what will become an 85-acre park and condo project. A mini-forest of almost 500 magnolias, lindens, serviceberries, sweetgums, London planes catalpas and oaks now stands in a nursery midway along Furman Street between Old Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue.

The trees are slated to be planted in the fall on the northern and southern ends of the park development.

The Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation, a state body roused from years of a sub-performing slumber, revealed at its board meeting last Wednesday that it had signed a 99-year lease, effective next year, with the state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to run the existing Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park in DUMBO.

It is one of the few instances when an state park agency has given up management of a park to a state development agency. However unique, the move was expected because the Civil War-era Empire Stores ware-

house, which is part of Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park, will someday be renovated and turned into a revenue-producing development that will underwrite some maintenance costs for the entire park development.

Eventually, Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park, which is home to the popular "Movies with a View" summer series, will be subsumed into the entire \$350-million Brooklyn Bridge Park, as pieces of it are created on piers and uplands stretching south to Atlantic Avenue.

The first phase of newly built green areas are due to open at the end of this year on Pier 1, at the foot of Old Fulton Street, and Pier 6, near the end of Atlantic Avenue.

Squadron: What the F is going on?

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

We all know that something is wrong with the F train — but soon we're going to know exactly what.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority has begun a full performance review of Brownstone Brooklyn's underground lifeline after repeated complaints that the train's name was actually the grade that engineers would give it.

The "performance and infrastructure" review, which



The 'F' train.

something was wrong. "Squadron added," "When I brought it up to the MTA, they... agreed. I'm happy that they're being responsive."

Riders, of course, were a bit less forgiving. "I call it the 'F' train, not the 'F' train," added rider Alex Covesky. "The platform is always crowded."

MTA spokeswoman Deirdre Parker told *The Brooklyn Paper* that the transit agency will provide Squadron with the results of the review within two weeks.

"Our top people from different units will get together and respond to the senator's concerns," she said.

Elephant in the room

It's man vs. pachyderm in latest Coney Isle eating extravaganza

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Throughout the circus, the human race has never faced a challenge like this before — an eating contest against elephants!

But Coney Island is bracing for just such an unprecedented spectacle on July 3 with three brave — and perhaps naïve — souls during a square off in a hot dog bun-eating contest against a trio of pachyderms from the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

The human are hoping that their superior intellect comes into play. For instance they can dunk the rolls in water [to minimize their volume]," said George Shea, the president of the International Federation of Competitive Eating, the governing body of all stomach-centric sports that is sanctioning the contest at the Ringling Brothers circus site on West 21st Street.

The human gustatory gladiators

have another advantage over the gentle vegetarian giants. "Perhaps the elephants won't understand the word 'Go,'" Shea speculated.

The rules are simple. Which ever team eats more standard-issue Frankfurter rolls in six minutes will be declared victorious. In individual honors will be dispensed on the single creature that stomachs the most starchy carbohydrates.

The odds are clearly in the elephants' favor.

According to circus handlers, the beasts gorge on 200 pounds of food a day and can devour a loaf of bread, a staple of their diet, in one and a half seconds.

"When most people see elephants, they see the majesty of nature. To me, I see an arrogant animal that

See **CONTEST** on page 6



RATS! This animal is too cute!

PAGE 6



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Yards foes 'suit' up Another appeal is launched

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Nine property owners inside the Atlantic Yards footprint moved last week to appeal last month's Appellate Division ruling that said the state could use eminent domain to seize privately owned land for the controversial arena and skyscraper proposal.

The plaintiffs want the Court of Appeals, the highest court in New York, to review the plan's constitutionality, and ultimately, overturn the May decision by the lower court.

The property owners argue that a clause in the state Constitution adopted during the Great Depression prohibits the seizure of private property for housing — unless the new housing that's created is reserved solely for low-income tenants.

Like the earlier case, the appeal alleges that developer Bruce Ratner's expected profits so overshadow the supposed public ben-

efits of the mega-development, such as the basketball arena, thousands of units of below-market-rate housing and open space, that the project itself can not be a "public benefit" — the accepted precondition for the use of eminent domain.

"The state Constitution is perfectly clear that you have to do an analysis to determine if public benefits substantially outweigh the private benefits," said Matt Brinkerhoff, the attorney for the plaintiffs. "And the Empire State Development Corporation has no idea if Ratner is going to make \$1 or \$10 billion."

Of course, the Court of Appeals can deny the request to hear the case — a move that would please Ratner. He's repeatedly complained that the string of lawsuits has impeded construction, though construction has been far more hampered by the developer's inability to obtain financing for the controversial \$4-billion project.




Plaintiff's lawyer Matthew Brinkerhoff will appeal last month's ruling.

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NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

FORT GREENE Parents love bad boy 'pal City investigating alleged attack on teacher

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Parents are rallying in support of a controversial principal of a Fort Greene elementary school accused of hitting a kindergarten teacher last month — but he faces a long road back into the front office.

The Department of Education reassigned Sean Keaton to a non-school job after the alleged attack on PS 20's union representative during, ironically, a disciplinary hearing — but some parents are clamoring for the headmaster's return to the Adolphus Street school next fall.

"I want him back," said Patricia Evans, the mother of a third-grade boy. "He was stern, but this school came a long way."

Others agreed that the Keaton helped raise students' performance at the school since he took over in 2005, and said he should be given another chance.

"He's a leader and a great educator," said Shirley Williams, a school aide. The embattled principal's supporters took to the Internet, drafting an online petition, which collected 28 signatures through Monday night, asking for his reinstatement.

But that doesn't mean the entire school community is waiting with a welcome mat for him. Even before his arrest, Keaton was a divisive figure at PS 20, and, now, with his rap sheet, his critics are more entrenched than ever, after fuming previously about his "authoritarian" style



PS 20's controversial principal, Sean Keaton, was arrested for allegedly beating up a teacher.

on school Web sites. "I don't think he's suited for the job," said one mother, requesting anonymity. "I don't think he was had all the tools needed to do a good job."

Before a possible return, Keaton must face the music, which includes the criminal count against him. The attacked teacher, Robert Segarra, could not be reached, but a spokesman for the United Federation of Teachers said Segarra, who was allegedly punched and kicked by Keaton, is pressing charges.

The union, meanwhile, said Keaton must receive counseling to control his

temper. "We certainly feel that the principal needs some counseling for anger management," said Ron Davis, a spokesman for the UFT. "Under no circumstances is it acceptable for a principal to strike a member of the faculty. Until he learns to control his anger management issues, he should not be allowed to direct a school."

A spokeswoman for the public school system said the incident is being investigated and that no decisions have been made yet about whether Keaton would return in the fall.

—with Thomas Nocera

BAY RIDGE Green Church Elementary 680-seat school set for site of disputed demolition

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Plans to build a school on the site of the demolished "Green Church" earned an A+ last week.

The City Council approved a proposal to construct a 680-seat elementary school on the corner of Fourth and Irvington avenues — where the century-old, moss-hued Bay Ridge United Methodist Church stood until it was torn down in October by the shrinking congregation to make room for a smaller house of worship and luxury condos.

After that controversial demolition, developer Abe Betesh announced that instead of going ahead with the condo portion of the plan, a portion of



The site of the demolished Green Church in Bay Ridge will become a school.

land was for sale.

That's when the main opponent of the demolition, Councilman Vince Gentile (D-Bay Ridge), suggested that the city erect a school stop the emerald-colored rubble.

Surprisingly enough, city officials listened. The Council moved last week to give the School Construction Authority permission to acquire land and build the newly christened PS 331K beside the still-to-be-built church.

Gentile was ecstatic. "Bay Ridge is home to dedicated teachers and inspiring students," he said in a statement. "And now we're a step closer to getting them the space and resources they deserve!"

RED HOOK Un-charter-ed territory at PS 15

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

A second schoolyard fight is underway between a new Red Hook charter school, which needs at least an extra year in PS 15 until its own facility is built, and the public school's parents and teachers who want total control of the entire Sullivan Street elementary building.

The PAVE Academy, which opened last fall with two grades inside PS 15, agreed to be out of the Patrick Daily School building for the 2010-11 school year, but it has not found a permanent site, let alone begun construction on its own K-8 school.

"There's a fear that we're never going to leave, and I hope we can put that anxiety to rest once we purchase a facility," said Spencer Robertson, the school's founder. Robertson said a deal could be imminent.

"And then, at that point, there will be some peace of mind." But until then, the controversy continues to roil. In its first year, PAVE used four classrooms, two offices and another room. It will add two more classes this fall for incoming kindergartners.



A huge crowd of parents attended Wednesday night's meeting. Here, Nahisha McCoy makes a point.

PS 15, the host, has only 377 students in a building designed for 835 pupils — a rarity in a district where many schools exceed capacity. Still, its teachers were eager to regain classrooms they used for a science lab, performing art space and a special education office. Some said the collaboration has been tough.

"The issue is the same old issue. They came in here and

it's really difficult. We don't have separate wings," said a teacher who did not want to be identified.

The renewed controversy is similar to the conflict that erupted last year when parents and teachers first learned that the building would be split between the two schools.

The Department of Education said the sharing has gone relatively smoothly

and that if the PAVE Academy asks for an extension of its time in the Daily School named for its former principal killed in a gang shootout 16 years ago — the city would review the amount of space available.

"We haven't made any determination about the school staying or growing," said Melody Meyer, a spokeswoman for the Department of Education.

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88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene-Clinton Hill

A man with facial hair and several tattoos raped a woman on Flatbush Avenue Extension on June 10.

The victim, 30, said the attacker had a tattoo on his chest with three hearts, and the names "Kevin" and "Tevin" etched on his arm. She told cops that he took her behind the building at the corner of DeKalb Avenue and sexually assaulted at 10:45 p.m. He stole her cellphone and \$14, too.

Screwed

Police apprehended a burglar who looted a St. Felix

Street apartment on June 8. The victim, 41, broke into the residence between Lafayette Avenue and Hanson Place with a screwdriver at around 4:20 p.m. He was later identified by a witness who saw him a block away on Fort Greene Place.

The thief was caught red-handed with a laptop, projector, camcorder, label maker, tripod, Leatherman, binoculars, flashlight, and a shoulder bag; the victim said that the 31-year-old woman said had been pilfered from her apartment.

Hooligans

Three men violated the sanctity of a N. Oxford Street stoop, mugging a man who

POLICE BLOTTER

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was sitting there on June 13.

The victim, 26, said that he was on his front steps, between Flushing and Park avenues, at 7:45 p.m. when three hooligans approached. One socked him in the kisser before the ruffians stole property that was not identified in the police report.

Latchkey crook

An Adelphi Street apartment was burglarized over-

night on June 13.

One roommate, 50, said he left the unit at 12:30 p.m. and returned 12 hours later to the building between Myrtle and Willowby avenues to find his front door unlocked and a canister of loose change, two iPods, headphones, a desktop computer and a laptop missing.

The victim suspects that the intruder found his room-

mate's missing apartment key, which was lost the day before the crime.

PS I thwart you

In an unusual turn of events, a man thwarted two goons' burglary attempt at PS 20 on Adelphi Street on June 10.

The witness was on scaffolding outside the school at 8:40 p.m. when he heard a strange sound emanating from inside the building, which is between Willowby and DeKalb avenues. He told police that he scampered to the third floor and peered through the window, where he saw two men breaking into the computer lab with a hammer.

He made some noise and the crooks fled, though they took the hammer, which belonged to the school.

The principal of the school is on leave after allegedly beating up a teacher last month (see page 3).

Trio trapped

Cops arrested three teens accused of mugging another lad near the corner of DeKalb Avenue and St. Felix Street on June 11.

The victim, 16, said the troublingly triumvirate, aged 16-17, took his iPhone at 3 p.m. Police officers recovered the cellphone.

— Mike McLaughlin

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens

Cable Hill-Red Hook

Blade runners

Teenage hoodlums, one wielding a knife, mugged another teen on President Street on June 3.

The victims sneaked behind the victim, 14, between Smith and Hoyt streets at 3:15 p.m. One of the crooks held the shy to the innocent lad's back, before he and his accomplice stole two cellphones from the victim.

Huff and puff

Thieves deployed their SUV as a battering ram against an ATM on the sidewalk of Court Street on June 4, but were unable to uproot the cash machine.

A witness saw two men in the black vehicle deliberately smash into the outdoor bank machine between Douglas and Degraw streets at 2 a.m., but staffers fled when the cash machine remained rooted.

Taxi nab

Hooligans stole the antenna and radio equipment from a delivery cab parked on Hicks Street while the driver visited an ailing family member in the hospital on June 8.

The driver, 35, said he parked his car at 12:20 p.m. between Warren and Baltic streets. When he returned, his passenger side window was shattered and someone had taken his transmitter, antenna and other gear to communicate with his dispatcher.

— Mike McLaughlin

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge

Not so easy

A thug mugged an 18-year-old boy for a video game and a cellphone on 86th Street on June 11.

The teenager told cops that he was near Third Avenue at around 7 p.m. when the thief threw him against a car and said, "We're going to do this nice and easy."

The thief then reached into the boy's pocket, grabbed the phone and Playstation Portable and fled.

A grand ol' time

A burglar broke in through the front door of a 13th Avenue house on June 10 and made off with \$1,000.

The 60-year-old tenant told cops that she had left the home, which is near 72nd Street, at around 10:30 p.m. and returned less than an hour later to find the front door ajar and the bag containing the money missing.

'Queens' rob

A thief purloined a wallet from a car parked on Third Avenue on June 7.

The 31-year-old victim, from Queens, returned to the car, which had been left near 81st Street, to find his back door slightly ajar.

When he got home, he realized that his wallet — containing multiple credit cards — was missing from the glove box.

Two nights later, a driver who left his car unlocked in front of Mr. Tang's restaurant at about 9 p.m. returned to find that his wallet — and the \$80 inside it — was gone.

— Thomas Nocera

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights-DUMBO

Pink slipped

The popular pizza joint, Monty Q's, was robbed overnight on June 11 — and the owner has a reasonable suspicion that a former employee was the culprit.

What makes him so sure? When the worker was fired from the restaurant, which is on Montague Street between Henry and Clinton streets, he allegedly said, "I am going to cause harm."

Cops say the suspect got away with cash.

Gold rush

An apartment on Court Street was robbed in just a half-hour on June 11.

The owner of the unit, which is between Remsen and Joralemon streets, told police that she left her apartment at 1:15 p.m. and returned just 30 minutes later to discover that \$1,655 in jewelry had been stolen from her desk. The big-ticket item was a \$1,400 gold necklace.

Let the belt go

It was practically a strip search on Schermerhorn Street on June 11 when a thief stole the white metal belt right off his victim's waist.

Cops say that the robber ran up his belt-wearing victim at Bond Street at around 2 p.m., ripped the belt off, and then punched him for good measure before running off.

Total value of the theft? A mere \$25.

That '70s show

A man was brutally assaulted by 11 assailants while riding the G train on June 11.

He told police the gang of robbers surrounded him at around 5 p.m. and, after sating him up as no latter day Bernie Goetz, started punch-

ing and kicking him mercilessly for 30 minutes.

Before ending their assault, they grabbed his cellphone.

Bald-er-dash!

One of Downtown Brooklyn's venerable drinking establishments became a crime scene on June 12, when bald-faced — and, it turned out, bald-headed — thief snatched a woman's bag.

The victim told police that she was boozing (and, if she was wise, hamburgering) at Kevin Barry's on Willowby Street, at around 10 p.m.

After being momentarily distracted (it must have been the burger), she saw a bald man take the bag, which contained \$1,100 in electronics and cash, and flee from the watering hole, which is between Lawrence and Jay streets.

Car crimes

Thieves targeted cars all over the neighborhood, breaking into at least three vehicles. Here's a roundup:

• A thief broke into a vehicle that had been parked on York Street on June 4, stealing a CD player. The victim said she parked the car between Gold and Bridge streets at 6 p.m. and returned the next morning.

• A car was stolen from Joralemon Street overnight on June 11. The victim said he parked his car between Hicks Street and Garden Place and returned the next morning to find it gone.

• A Mercedes-Benz parked in a lot on Schermerhorn Street was broken into and \$25 in personal items stolen on June 12. The victim told police that he left the car in the lot, which is between Nevins Street and Third Avenue, at 8:09 p.m. and returned less than two hours later to find that his vehicle, with ironic novelty license plates DREAM, had been broken into and burgled.

— Jacob Kleinman

90TH PRECINCT

Williamsburg-Bushwick

Bunglers

A pair of hapless hoods tried to hold up a Bushwick Avenue bodega on June 13, but they couldn't pull off the heist because they couldn't get along.

The perp entered the Eagle Mini Mart at around 11:25 p.m. and one of the hoodlums — who lifted his shirt to reveal he was carrying a gun in his waistband — ordered shoppers and employees to hit the deck.

"Yo, nobody can move, everybody down," the crook demanded as he approached the counter.

But that's when his accomplice got cold feet.

"Don't do anything, they have cameras," the other robber said.

The pair of failed felons argued with each other long enough for an employee to dial 911 — then the crooks made up their mind and fled from the shop, which is near McKibben Street.

Black-buried!

A thief pushed a 28-year-old woman to the ground and stole her fancy cellphone on June 10.

The crook approached the victim from behind and shoved her over near the corner of Vandervort Place and Thames Street at around 11 p.m.

When she was on the ground, the crook grabbed the victim's BlackBerry — valued by police at \$520.

Sidekicked

A knife-wielding crook tried to hold up a 13-year-old for his Sidekick cellphone on June 8.

The scalawag approached the teen as he walked home from school at around 2:50 p.m. at the corner of Broadway and Walton Street.

"Give me your 'kick," he said, referring to the popular Sidekick cellphone. "You want me to follow you home? Give me your 'kick before I cut you."

That's when the perp pushed the victim and pulled out a knife.

The victim dashed away into a nearby furniture store, but the thug chased him into the shop.

Once inside the store, the perp slapped the victim in the face. An employee told the crook to scam.

Southside stab

Cops nabbed two teens suspected of participating in the vicious stabbing of a 20-year-old on June 12.

A group of goons confronted the victim near the corner of S. Fourth and Roebling streets at around 10:30 p.m. and stabbed the victim seven times.

After the attack, the crooks scattered and the victim was treated at Bellevue Hospital, but witnesses were able to ID a pair of 16-year-olds that allegedly took part in the attack.

Billy burg!

A brazen burglar snatched \$1,000 from the bedroom of

See **BLOTTER** on page 5



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Born to be mild!

I drove Brooklyn's first electric Mini Cooper

This is not your grandfather's golf cart. In fact, it's not even your grandfather's Oldsmobile (which, as I remember Zepke's Cutlass, went 0-60 in a day and a half).

The brand new, all-electric Mini Cooper — of which exactly one exists in Brooklyn — is a sweet ride with all the pop of a race car, the nimble handling of a sports car... and the exhaust of a toy car.

And I got to drive it. One part of me — the "Star Trek" fan, I suppose — was duly unimpressed. I mean, we were talking about electric cars back in the 1970s. By 2009, we not only expected to drive them, but we pretty much thought they'd be capable of flight, too.

No such luck. But the other part of me — the "Inconvenient Truth" guy who is sick of burning dirty old fuels just to get around — couldn't wait to get behind the wheel of a Mini Cooper that emits no pollution and burns no fossil fuels.

I met my future dream car at the Fulton Ferry landing in DUMBO, where Lex Heslin, CEO of the Columbia Street-based sustainable energy company, BeautifulEarth Group, was waiting for me.

First, I kicked the tires a bit. The only visible differences between this all-electric Mini and the gas-sipping version is the lack of a trunk (it's completely filled with batteries), a steel box where the engine should be that looks like a casket for a medium-sized dog, a battery charger (one woman actually waved at me



HOT WHEELS: Our columnist got to take a sweet ride in an all-electric Mini Cooper — the first one in the city.

ically, and a plug where the gas usually goes in.

I took the key to the car and fired up this baby. In place of a throaty rumble from the ignition, all I got was... nothing. No sound at all. Would this battery-powered



THE BROOKLYN ANGLE
By Gersh Kuntzman

Studio B) gone? Then I hit the gas — and the tires squealed as I went from 0 to 60 on Furman Street in less than six seconds. This thing had more pickup than the filthiest muscle car from the '70s — and lots of babe magnetism (one woman actually waved at me

on Hicks Street, though I do think she was waving at the car, not me).

There is one weird thing about driving an electric Mini: If you take your foot off the gas, the car begins to slow down rapidly, rather than coasting, which takes some getting used to. But the good news is that the battery is actually recharging itself from your deceleration.

"That's why it's the perfect city car," Heslin said. "The charge actually lasts longer during stop-and-go traffic."

Of course, there's one big problem: There aren't any filling stations for electric cars. Indeed, those smart engineers at Chevrolet (remember them?) missed that one detail when they created the ultimate urban vehicle — the Chevy Volt — and forgot that urbanites don't park in driveways, but anywhere they can find a spot (often further away from

the home than the length of a 50-foot extension cord).

Heslin, whose company generates energy from the sun and, soon, from wind, predicted that this is only a short-term problem.

"When cars were first invented, there were no filling stations either," he said. "But entrepreneurs filled the vacuum."

Now, I'll admit I felt something for Heslin's electric Mini Cooper that I haven't felt for a sedan since I fell in love with my brother's Galaxy 500 that couldn't go into reverse without being pushed and drove like it was a couch, but I remained skeptical. Said this Mini Cooper doesn't emit pollution, but the power plant that created the electricity *does*.

"That's where we come in," said Heslin. "You don't need coal to make electricity. My company exists to get people away from coal, gas, oil and nuclear and into sustainable energy sources, primarily solar and wind. We make energy just like the coal or nuclear guys, but we just make it cleanly."

That, at least, explains why Heslin's company got one of the first electric Minis in the country. But I was still suspicious. Don't the laws of supply and demand suggest that if everyone was driving an electric car, the demand would go up, so the price would go up, too?

"But with solar and wind power, most of the costs are upfront, so as you make energy, your cost per kilowatt-hour actually keeps going down," he said.

As such, Heslin is hooked.

"This car is going to change everything," he said.

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Staar struck

MTA mobilizes for Lola

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

At last, all's well at Stillwell Avenue.

Hours after The Brooklyn Paper revealed last week that MTA bureaucrats had trapped the Lola Starr boutique in their own back hole, the transit agency finally began processing Dianna Carlin's paperwork for her shop in the Coney Island subway station.

Carlin had been trying since February to get the MTA to approve her blue-

prints. Despite a letter from a local state senator in April, it was only after that got her train out of the station.

She still has to alter some electrical designs, but at least she got an answer. "After six months of waiting, phone calls, and urging them to review my plans, on the day your article came out, they found the time to re-view my plans!" Carlin said.

"They came back with more comments from my architect, but progress is being made!" Hoorya.

WHAT A NUISANCE

Board rejects Studio B liquor license

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

That's the message that North Brooklyn's Community Board 1 sent to the Banker Street club Studio B last week, voting unanimously to recommend that the state not renew the club's liquor license.

The advisory vote last Tuesday comes after months of conflict between club owners and neighbors, who have accused the venue of hosting noisy — and illegal — rooftop parties, welcoming raunchy "Girls Gone Wild"-style music, and leaving the sidewalks filthy after events.

"There have been hundreds of complaints against them," said Public Safety Chair Mieszko Kalita. "It is my responsibility to the neighborhood to deny the license. I can only hope the State Liquor Authority will follow through."

Opposition against the club mounted last summer, when neighbors pleaded CBI to recommend the disapproval of the venue's application for a cabaret license.

Kalita's committee did just that — and days later the city revoked the venue's permits after discovering that exits that would be unsafe in an emergency evacuation.

But earlier this year, techno DJs and nightclub promoters Josh Houtkin and Dave Pranka took over as Studio B as the club's new management with the promise to attempt to make peace with the community.

"We want things to be cool and our neighbors — that's really important to us," said Houtkin during a February interview. "It's going to take a lot to overcome the stigma that the club has, but we want the neighbors to feel good being around us, we want the club-goers to feel good coming here," he added, noting that the club installed double doors to prevent noise, and hired employees to sweep the sidewalk.

But Kalita says that the noise complaints haven't stopped.

In fact, one neighbor wrote in a comment on The Brooklyn Paper's award-winning Web site on May 20 that revelers on the club's rooftop space — which has not yet approved a certificate of occupancy from the city — have kept her awake at night.

"I am forced to listen to window-rattling bells till the wee hours of the morning," she wrote. "I am forced to listen to window-rattling bells till the wee hours of the morning," she wrote. "I am forced to listen to window-rattling bells till the wee hours of the morning," she wrote.

Houtkin and Pranka did not return calls.

BLOTTER...

Continued from page 4
a Ross Street apartment on June 10 — while the victims were asleep!

The thief — a heavyset man clad in all black — got into the home at around 4:35 a.m. and was in the midst of ransacking the husband and wife's dresser when the wife awoke.

The woman shouted and the crook fled from the residence, which was between Marcy and Division avenues.

Bad delivery
Two armed crooks held up a deliveryman for \$270, four lemon iced teas, and \$15 of Chinese food on June 14.

The crooks — who wore black masks during the stick-up — pulled out a black handgun and robbed the victim on the 19th floor of the building on Clymer Street between Wythe and Bedford avenues at around 6 p.m.

— Ben Muessig
94TH PRECINCT
Greenpoint-Williamsburg

Big arrest
Cops nabbed a sick crook suspected of breaking into a Haron Street apartment on June 13 and fondling a 21-year-old woman while she slept.

The deviant climbed into the apartment through an open first-floor window at around 5 a.m., reached up the dozing victim's shorts, and exposed his penis. The victim woke up and

shouted at the pervert, who dashed out of the apartment, which is between Manhattan Avenue and McGuinness Boulevard, hopped on a bike, and pedaled away.

By the time police arrived at the scene, the victim noticed that the crook had also stolen \$20.

Early crime!
A June 13 argument turned two revelers into pugilists — and left one of them missing an ear.

The brawling took place at the Continental Restaurant on Newell Street at around 2:30 a.m., when two patrons got into a "verbal argument over home cities in Poland," police reports indicate.

But this hometown rivalry wasn't just a war of words. One of the men punched the other in the face with a closed fist, then — in an apparent homage to boxer Mike Tyson — "bit a piece of [the victim's] left ear off, disfiguring [him] and causing him pain," according to cops.

The masticator fled from the bar, which is between Driggs and Nassau avenues, and the 22-year-old victim was treated at Bellevue Hospital, where he received 15 stitches.

But cops canvassed the neighborhood and knocked up an individual who was found to be in possession of the victim's cash.

Checkmate
Two armed crooks held up a 60-year-old after he left a Morgan Avenue check-cashing business on June 12.

The robbers confronted the victim near the corner of Beadel Street and Vandervoort Avenue at around 12:30 p.m.

The victim forked over his cash and his wallet and the thieves fled.

Bottle rocket
Police cuffed a 13-year-old suspected of attempting to rob a Greenpoint resident with a broken bottle on June 8.

The pint-sized perp allegedly approached his 19-year-old victim from behind near the corner of Debevoise and Skillman avenues at around 4:50 p.m., wielding a broken bottle. The would-be mugger threatened to cut the victim if he didn't fork over his iPod and — but the victim managed to escape.

Cops locked up the teen-aged suspect later that day.

— Ben Muessig
78TH PRECINCT
Park Slope

Subway mug
A woman was robbed at a locker at Harbor Fitness on First Street while the victim was working out on June 9.

The first-floor locker police that she had left the keys on top of the locker when she got to the gym, which is between Third and Fourth avenues, at 4:30 p.m. When she returned to the locker room 90 minutes later, she discovered that

Bergen Street station at 7:45 p.m., placed the knife on her leg and said, "Don't look at me."

Without so much as a sideways glance, she handed over her wallet, which contained a credit card and \$11. And she also gave the thief the password for her debit card.

Jeepjack
A Jeep was stolen from 15th Street on June 6.

The victim told cops that she had left the car between Fourth and Fifth avenues at 1 p.m. and returned the next morning at 11 a.m. to find her green sedan missing.

Craigscam
A thief disguised as a house cleaner stole \$3,540 in jewelry and cash from an apartment on 11th Street on June 9 — after being hired off Craigslat to tidy the place up.

The victim told police that the cleaner may have committed the crime between 11:15 a.m. and 12:10 p.m., when he returned to find the hired help gone, the property missing, and the apartment, which is between Sixth and Seventh avenues, still filthy.

Fit burglar
A thief stole a laptop from a locker at Harbor Fitness on First Street while the victim was working out on June 9.

The first-floor locker police that she had left the keys on top of the locker when she got to the gym, which is between Third and Fourth avenues, at 4:30 p.m. When she returned to the locker room 90 minutes later, she discovered that

her stuff was gone.

Mug me now?
A thief stole a man's Blackberry, mid-conversation, while he was standing on Fifth Avenue on June 9 — but he didn't get far with the cellphone before he was picked.

The victim told police that he had just exited the subway station at Fourth Avenue and Ninth Street at 7:07 p.m. when the thief approached, snatched the phone out of his hand, and ran towards Fifth Avenue.

The victim pursued the thief, who was apprehended by a nearby police officer.

— Jacob Kleinman

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

June 19, 2009

Hair today!

With Father's Day here, it's time for men to cut back

By the GO Brooklyn
Hair Club for Men
The Brooklyn Paper

Move over, dogs — barbers are a man's real best friend. Sure, the job description has changed since the days when tooth-pulling and blood-letting were as common as fads and Pompadours, but it goes without saying that Brooklynites and their hair-cutters share a sacred bond.

That unbreakable connection — an attachment so strong that men actually allow barbers near their exposed necks with straight razors! — begins with trust. And the most-trusting customers are the ones who wind up with the finest foli- cles, according to legendary Fort Greene shearer Jessy Hall.

"The best haircut comes from mind of the barber," said Hall, who has trimmed, snipped and shaved heads in his Greene Avenue shop, Jessy's House of Styles, for 40 years.

Hall listens to his customers' requests, but when a man asks for a cut that just won't match his cranium, the talented bar- berial artist reasons with the client.

"Nobody ever went out of here with a bad haircut," Hall said. Gaining customers' confidence is as easy as giving a bald man a buzz cut, according to Court Street haircutter Da- mian, whose first name is synonymous with a tight-cropped Caesar.

"The best way to keep customers is to give them a good haircut," said Damian, whose old school barbershop — un- usually named Damian — has been in Carroll Gardens for 20 years. "I have cus- tomers who moved away and still come back to me for a haircut when they are in the neighborhood. That's a satisfied cus- tomer."

But not every man goes to the barber



For a quality haircut — some just visit for the camaraderie. "People look for different things in barbers," said Hall. "Professional people look

for quality. Some of these younger guys, they're looking for friend- ship." And when Brooklynites aren't looking for a pal in their barber, they're looking for a psychoanal- yst.

"Sometimes, it's like I'm a doc- tor and they're the patient," said Hall. "People will tell you ev- erything. They relieve all their stress on the barber. Sometimes I'm like — 'Yo, you're stressing me out!'"

Barbers learn the dirt on just about everyone in the neigh- borhood, and they're usually will- ing to dole out advice.

Despite the recession and the proliferation of electric razors in households across the borough, old-school haircutters continue to persevere. If they survived the haircut- ting dark ages (that would be the 1960s, not the Medieval period), they can survive anything, according to Angelo Fi- umefreddo of Park Slope Barber Shop, which has been on the same block of Sev- enth Avenue for 104 years.

"It's better than in the 1960s, with the Hippies," said Fiumefreddo, who has cut hair for 35 years. "They were a mess. I really thought we were going to close be- cause no one was getting haircuts. The style then was to just let it grow. To be honest, and you can quote me, they were filthy. I call it the 'Filthy Era.'"



Cutting class: (At left) Vito Fiumefreddo gives a cut at the Park Slope Barber Shop, which has been on the same Seventh Avenue block for 104 years. (Above) Jessy Hall is the mane man at Jessy's House of Styles in Fort Greene.

OUR BARBERSHOP QUARTET

There are many barbers to choose from in this hairy borough, but here are our favorites:

Damian Hair Styling

This amply mirrored Carroll Gardens joint draws a steady crowd of regulars looking for close cuts from expert barbers, who can shear sideburns and necks with straight razors — and no shaving cream.

Damian Hair Styling (417 Court St. between Second and Third places in Carroll Gardens (718) 596-6902).

Jessy's House of Styles

Whether your hair is long or short, curly or straight, you can trust Jessy Hall — a barber so good he cuts his own hair (seriously).

Jessy's House of Styles (11 Greene Ave. between South Oxford and Cumberland streets in Fort Greene (718) 624-8920).

Park Slope Barber Shop

Classic to the core, this 104-year-old shop still boasts the same original sinks and marble counters.

Park Slope Barber Shop (223 Seventh Ave. be- tween Third and Fourth streets in Park Slope, (718) 965-4366).

Rome Style Barber Shop

This vintage shop boasts wood-paneled walls, an- tique reclining chairs, and a skilled team of barbers capable of all kinds of cuts, old and new.

Rome Style Barber Shop (6826 Third Ave. between 68th and 69th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 833-0998).

But many of Brooklyn's most classic- styled barbershops — with their spinning poles and window charts advertising the periodic table of haircuts — have sur- vived, and almost all of them can trim hair into everything from an Afro to whiffle cuts.

"You can't be half a barber," said Joe, a haircutter at Rome Style Barber Shop on Third Avenue in Bay Ridge who de- clined to give his last name. "Either you know how to do the old cuts and the new cuts, or you don't cut at all."

TOUR

Pass the bar

Next Tuesday, Boerum Hill becomes "Bar- room Hill," thanks to a guided jaunt that will stop at three popular watering holes, each with its own link to a different historical age.

Tipplers will first duck into the Revolution- ary War-tinged Brazen Head on Atlantic Ave- nue; the mid-19th cen- tury Brooklyn Inn on Hoyt Street (pictured); and Hank's Saloon, which, under a previ- ous name, was an old Atlantic Avenue hang- out for Mohawk steel- workers that was made famous in a yarn by Joseph Mitchell of the New Yorker, a literary supplement.

"These pub walks are going to be a fun way to discover (or rediscover) Boerum Hill as a small group taking a relaxed walk," said Chuck Wells, a member of the Boerum Hill Association, which organized the stroll.

There will be drinking, which helps, too. The Boerum Hill pub walk leaves from Trad- er Joe's (corner of Atlantic Avenue and Court Street, (646) 320-5657), Tuesday, June 23 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, \$10. — Mike McLaughlin

MUSIC

Freedy now!

Sorry for the late notice, but Freedy John- ston is playing Union Hall tonight.

This is a big deal for anyone who remem- bers Johnston's last Brooklyn show, when he was at Southpaw last year and played his ir- replaceable 1992 album "Can You Fly" from "Trying to Tell You I Don't Know" all the way through to "We Will Shine."

He won't reprise the album, but Johnston promised a great show. "I'll be doing my thing — solo acous- tic," he said.

Though he hasn't put out an LP in eight years — "I'm a slow worker," he said — he'll have plenty of material.

"I've been playing all over and writing songs — and I finally have a new album coming out in October," he said.

A new album? You mean the same "new" album he talked about last year?

"This time, it's really coming out," the for- mer Williamsburger and native Kansan said.

It's called "Rain on the City."

Don't expect any ground-breaking new sound from the man whose "Can You Fly" and 1994 follow-up "This Perfect World" brought him from obscurity to legendary indie status — a lofty perch that he promptly squandered on half-starts, soul-searching, odd cover gigs on the Lower East Side and plenty of touring.

He may not be "back," but he's still great.

"Everyone is happy with the new album — it's a good restart to my musical life," he said.

Freedy Johnston at Union Hall (702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4403, June 19, 8 p.m. Tickets, \$15. — Gersh Kuntzman

ART

Stein's way

Photographer Mike Stein followed a simple rule while shooting for the venerable Prospect Press: no grip-and-grins.

Stein did everything he could to avoid snapping standard photo-ops in favor of more spontaneous im- ages while working for the paper, which cov- ered Park Slope's early gentrification between 1982 and 1987.

"I looked to avoid the typical clichés that you always see in news photography," said Stein, whose work is now on display at the Central Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library.

"I was trying to find the meaningful or ar- tistic moments in everyday events." In his five years at the weekly paper — which was based in the Seventh Avenue storefront cur- rently occupied by Assemblyman Jim Brannan — Stein climbed from a freelance photographer to the editor of the periodical, which covered Park Slope, Windsor Terrace, Kensington and Sun- set Park with a 30,000-copy print run.

Mike Stein's photography at the Central Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library (Grand Army Plaza in Crown Heights, (718) 230-2762). — Ben Muesigg

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HERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY
June 19

OJ all day

They call it the "OJ All Day Festival," but don't worry — it's not a celebration of a wife-beating murderer (allegedly). Rather, the "Olive Juice" fest is an all-day music bash with nearly 40 "independent" musicians (and they're not "indie" because they suck; they're indie because the Man hasn't gotten off his iPod and discovered them yet).

7 pm–1 am. OJ All Day Fest. Brooklyn Lycium, 1227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816. Tickets, \$12 (in advance), \$15 (at door). For info, visit www.ojallday.com.

SATURDAY
June 20

Get some tail

It's not officially summer until the Mermaid Parade marches down Surf Avenue and King Neptune — this year, it's none other than Harvey Keitel — officially opens the beach at Coney Island. As always, the Riots will be dressed to the nines — but the people on them won't be. Usually one must go to a porn theater (or one of our editor's backyard barbecues) to see this much nudity.

2 pm. Mermaid Parade starts on West 21 Street and Surf Avenue in Coney Island. Free. For info, visit www.coneyisland.com.

SUNDAY
June 21

Bad-boy fever

Catch "Saturday Night Fever" on Sunday night, thanks to our friends at Habana Outpost and their weekly outdoor movie series. And you know what Dr. Brooklyn Paper's prescription for a case of "Saturday Night Fever" is, don't you? An icy Mojito. Funny, we know a great place to get that filled, so hustle on over.

8 pm. "Saturday Night Fever" at Habana Outpost/75 Fulton St. at S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 858-9500. Free.

FRIDAY
June 26

Flashback

A blast from the past: his DUMBO as circus acts and vaudeville entertainers take over the Gallapagos Art Space in a throwback to Coney Island's famed Luna Park. Entertainment includes the Red Hook Ramblers jazz group, circus acts and even a burlesque show (you know what we're talking about) by "Little Brooklyn" (pictured). Don't miss this chance to revisit Brooklyn's glory days.

9 pm. "The Vaudeville: acts of Luna Park" at the Gallapagos Art Space/16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500. For info, visit www.gallapagosartspace.com.

SATURDAY
June 27

Zine makers

Long before there was an Interweb, there were pale, socially inept, under-employed people churning out their own indie magazines. Even though we're in the age of the pale, socially inept, under-employed blogger, some "zines" — like "Giant Robot" and Ayan Halliday's "East Village Ink" (pictured) — are still going strong. Today, you can meet their creators — and drink beer with them!

Noon–7 pm. NYC Zine Fest at the Brooklyn Lycium, 1227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816. Free. Visit www.nyczinefest.org.

FRIDAY DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, JUNE 19

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE: Free. 10 am–5 pm. Holy Cross Church/8401 Ridge Blvd. at 84th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 836-3510.

ART OPENING: "Abominable Seduction," a group show. Free. 6 pm–2 am. Littlefield/22 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 255-3389. www.littlefieldny.com.

FILM: "BIG FISH." Black comedy about Giants fans. \$11. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music/31 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 436-4100. www.brooklynacademy.com.

THEATER: "MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING." Outdoor performance of Shakespeare's comedy, set in the world of baseball. Free. 7 pm. Fort Greene Park, Mary's Monument/Washington Park and Myrtle Avenue in Fort Greene, www.theaterarts.com.

BROOKLYN CYCLOPES VS. STATEN ISLAND: Opening day. \$8. 5:15–7 pm. Keyport Park/195 Surf Ave. at W. 17th Street in Coney Island, (718) 449-8877. www.brooklynjazz.com.

OJ ALL DAY FESTIVAL: Music showcase sponsored by Olive Juice Music. \$15. 12:15 (in advance). 7 pm–1 am. Brooklyn Lycium, 1227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816. www.brooklynjazz.com.

STOOP DRINKER SPEAKS: Kimber Varley, who beat the famous stoop-drinking idiom, will give his side of this story. 7:30 pm. Pete's Candy Store/109 Lorimer St. at Richardson Street in Williamsburg, (718) 302-3710. www.petescandystore.com.

THEATER: "EXIT, PURSUED BY BEARS." Part of the Antidressant Festival. \$15. 7:30 pm. Brick Theater/575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

MUSIC: DAVID RUDER. Chicago music. With slam poet Samantha Thornhill. \$3 (suggested). 7:30 pm. Prospect Park band shell/Enter park at Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Prospect Park, www.brooklynjazz.com.

BLACK BOX NEW PLAY FESTIVAL: Short plays by Lauren Cavanaugh, Denis Meadows, Kevin Christopher Snipes and Victoria J. Joseph. \$15. 8:15 (in advance and children). 8 pm. Gallery Players/199 14th St. between Foyers and 14th avenues in Park Slope, (212) 332-3101. galleryplayers.com.

THEATER: "IN CONCLUSIVE WOMAN." One-woman show by Dr. Julie Pratt. \$20. 8:15 (in advance and seniors). 8 pm. Ryan Repertory Theatre/2445 86th Ave. at Bay 8th Street in Bensonhurst, (718) 966-8800. www.conclusivewoman.com.

CLASSICAL CONCERT: Works by American composer Charles Griffes. \$35. 8:30 (in advance). 8 pm. Bargemusic/Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083. www.bargemusic.org.

THEATER: "THE TALE OF THE GOOD WHOLE." Lower of Chai-Lot's CAUCASIAN MOTHER AND HER



Three some: Blonde Redhead will play "Celebrate Brooklyn" on June 26 at the Prospect Park band shell.

OTHER CHILDREN OF A LESSER MARRIAGE: CHALK CIRCLE. Part of the Antidressant Festival. \$15. 9:30 pm. Brick Theater/575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

FIREWORKS: Free. 9:30 pm. Boardwalk/Surf Avenue and W. 12th Street in Coney Island, www.coneyislandfireworks.com.

SAT, JUNE 20

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

"WILDMAN" STEVE BRILL: Forger of wild jubilees and more in Prospect Park. Reservations required.

CIVIC CALENDAR

MON, JUNE 22

State Department of Transportation: Hearing about the future rebuilding of the BOE in Brooklyn Heights and DUMBO. 3 pm and 7 pm. NYU-Polytechnic Institute 15, Metropolitan Center, between Myrtle Avenue and Wythe Street in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 482-4526.

WED, JUNE 24

Community Board 6 Youth, Human Services and Education Committee. On the agenda: Presentation from Brooklyn Public Library about four branches in Park Slope, Carroll Gardens and Red Hook. 6:30 pm. Pacific Street Branch Library/25 Fourth Ave. between Pacific and Ocean streets in Park Slope, (718) 643-3027.

Columbia Waterfront Neighborhood Association: Quarterly meet.

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Newsroom@brooklynpaper.com.

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gested: Noon–8 pm. Empire Fulton Ferry State Park/Plymouth Street and Main Street in DUMBO, www.brooklynjazz.com.

OJ ALL DAY FESTIVAL: 2 pm–2 am. See Friday, June 19.

THEATER: "SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE." Audience is guided through the streets of Williamsburg. Part of the Antidressant Festival. \$20. 4 pm. Brick Theater/575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

THEATER: "GLEE CLUB." Part of the Antidressant Festival. \$15. 5 pm. Brick Theater/575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

THEATER: "IN CONCLUSIVE WOMAN." 5 pm. See Friday, June 19.

THEATER: "LE MIA." Part of the Antidressant Festival. \$15. 7 pm. Brick Theater/575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

MUSIC: "LA NAVE DE LOS MONSTRUOS." Ethel and Luis perform new original score for Mexican folkloric dance. \$3 (suggested). 7:30 pm. Prospect Park band shell/Enter park at Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Prospect Park, www.brooklynjazz.com.

BLACK BOX NEW PLAY FESTIVAL: See Friday, June 19.

CLASSICAL CONCERT: Voxare Quartet presents works by Mozart, Michael Nyman, Mozart and Chopin. \$40 (\$25 to 20 students). 8 pm. Bargemusic/Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083. www.bargemusic.org.

THEATER: "BOOZE, SPORTS AND ROMANCE." Part of the Antidressant Festival. \$15. 10 pm. Brick Theater/575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189. www.bricktheater.com.

SALES AND MARKETS

PS 32 FLEA MARKET: Free. 9 am–5 pm. PS 32 schoolyard (Seventh Avenue and First Street in Park Slope). www.parksideflea.com.

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE: 9 am–3 pm. See Friday, June 19.

ARTISTS AND FLEAS IN MCCABEN PARK: Free. 10 am–6 pm. McCabes Park (Bedford Avenue and Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). www.artistandfleas.com.

BROOKLYN FLEA: Free. 10 am–5 pm. Historic Longfellow 1537 Clermont Ave. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, www.brownstoner.com/brooklynflea.

See 9 DAYS on page 10

CNG Community Newspaper Group

The Brooklyn Paper
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Published weekly at
1 Metrotech Center North, Suite 1001, Brooklyn NY 11201 (718) 260-2500

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'C' is for cookies!

Melissa bakes a creamy treat

By Melissa Murphy
for The Brooklyn Paper

These chocolate chip cookies are the all-time best-seller at Sweet Melissa's, so when we opened the Generic next door, we figured that making ice cream sandwiches with them would be a great idea!

And what's a better way to finish off a Father's Day barbecue than that?

Melissa Murphy is the chef/owner of Sweet Melissa's Patisserie (175 Seventh Ave., between First and Second streets in Park Slope, (718) 788-7700, 276 Court St., between Butler and Douglass streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 855-3410).



Cookie monster: "Sweet" Melissa Murphy shows off her ice-cream sandwiches.

Chocolate Chip and Toasted Almond Ice Cream Sandwiches

Makes eight ice cream sandwiches

FOR THE COOKIES:

- 1/2 cup whole natural almonds, toasted
- 10 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 large egg
- 1 2/3 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 8 ounces best-quality semisweet chocolate, coarsely chopped into 1/4- to 1/2-inch chunks

FOR THE SANDWICHES:

- Premium vanilla ice cream
- Additional chopped chocolate and almonds for rolling (optional)
- Wax paper

Position a rack in the center of your oven. Pre-heat the oven to 350 degrees. Line two cookie sheets with parchment paper.

Roughly chop the almonds into medium pieces.

In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream together the butter, granulated sugar,

brown sugar, and vanilla until fluffy, about three minutes. Add the egg and beat for another minute.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, and salt.

With the mixer on low, add the flour mixture in three batches, mixing until no flour is visible after each addition. Scrape down the sides of the bowl.

Remove the bowl from the mixer. Stir in the almonds and chocolate. Refrigerate the dough until firm, about one hour.

Once the dough is chilled, turn it out onto a clean work surface and divide it in half.

Roll each half into a log about eight inches long. Refrigerate the logs for at least 30 minutes before slicing. (At this point, you can wrap the logs tightly in plastic wrap and then aluminum foil and freeze for up to one month.)

Cut the logs into one-inch slices, and place them about 1-1/2 inches apart on each cookie sheet. Bake for 13 to 14 minutes, or until the centers no longer have a glossy look of raw dough. They should be chewy, so do not overbake.

To assemble the ice cream sandwiches, place one scoop of ice cream on the bottom side of eight cookies, top each with the remaining cookies and smooth together until the ice cream just comes to the edge. Roll the ice cream edges in more chopped chocolate and toasted almonds, if desired. Wrap in wax paper and freeze until serving.

Girl power

Rock or disco?
That might've been the most important question for a teenager back in the 1970s, but attendees of this year's Seaside Summer Concert Series at Asser Levy Park in Coney Island won't have to make such a devastating choice.

That's because the 31st edition of Borough President Markowitz's popular concert series will feature both rock and disco queen Donna Summer (Aug. 27).

The full concert was just revealed on Wednesday night — and there's no lack of female star power.

Indeed, "heartbreaker" Pat Benatar will appear on the same bill as Blondie, joined by the hard-rocking band, the Donnas.

Last week, Markowitz said he was trying to sign another "mystery female star" — and she turned out to be Gladys Knight, who'll share a bill with the O'Jays on July 23.

The series won't be an all-girl affair, of course, but it's definitely a bit stuck in the '70s. Hall & Oates will appear on Aug. 6, and



Creedence Clearwater Revisited will share a stage with Mountain and John "Welcome Back" Sebastian on July 16.

Seaside Summer Concert Series at Asser Levy Park (West Fifth Street at Surf Avenue in Coney Island, (718) 222-0600). All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. Free. A limited number of \$5 rental chairs will be available.

— Joe Maniscalco

Our Wilco winner

She's going to the concert — on us!

And the winner of our Wilco concert ticket give-away is... Liz Swinchart of Bay Ridge!

I guess we're just suckers for someone who danced to a Wilco song at her wedding.

"This is so awesome!" she told The Brooklyn Paper's contest hotline crew when we called her on Tuesday afternoon. "I never win anything."

Swinchart was one of nearly 100 people who entered our Wilco concert ticket give-away in hopes of winning a pair of tickets to the band's July 13 concert at KeySpan Park in Coney Island.

Her essay demonstrated Wilco fanaticism in several ways:

1. She picked a great song, "Jesus, etc.," off the "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot" LP.
2. She appreciated the song enough to make it the first dance at her wedding last year.
3. She wrote a great essay.

"The lyrics are simple yet so soulful, haunting yet happy," she wrote. "We moved to New York, where skyscrapers scrape together, right after our wedding. We've seen Wilco several times, from Seattle to Charlotte, and the live version of 'Jesus, etc.' never fails to turn my orbit around. Nothing would make me happier than Wilco with my beautiful husband in our new hometown."

Swinchart's was not the only solid answer we read out of the dozens of entries we received. Finalists included:

• Frank Merola of Dyker Heights, who wrote, "My favorite Wilco song is 'Ashes of American Flags' because 200 of my fellow soldiers from my 2006 tour of duty in Iraq did not come home. It's like all we have are their ashes."

• Stuart Garber of Park Slope, who cher-

ishes "What a Light," the second-to-last song on "Sky Blue Sky." "The album is a poignant song-cycle of a man's struggle for equality during a marital separation. The highly varied musical settings are perfectly calibrated to the narrator's changing moods. In 'What a Light,' his struggle finally breaks free into celebration of acceptance, in a soaring melody that recalls

Dylan at his authentic Newport-era glory.

• William Smeal of Midwood, who picked "A Shot In the Arm" for "so many reasons." "Let's talk first about metaphors: 'The ashtray says.' 'The pillow wept.' 'The sun caught fire.' Then we can talk about what a sad song it is, done with an upbeat, catchy tempo. When I listen to this song, I feel like someone understands me, and I them. As the song spirals out in a distorted harmony, Jeff Tweedy repeats the phrase, 'What you once were isn't what you want to be anymore.' And the chorus, 'There's something in my veins bloodier than blood' leaves so much to interpretation that I just might have written it."

There was one honorable mention, from Claude Scales of Brooklyn Heights, who wrote, "My favorite Wilco song is 'Heavy Metal Drummer' from 'Yankee Hotel Foxtrot' because every time I hear it, I get a sense of what it would be like to lose a girlfriend to Mike McLaughlin."

Well said.

Wilco (with Yo La Tengo) at KeySpan Park (1904 Surf Ave., at W. 19th Street in Coney Island), July 13, doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets, \$45 (children under 6 are free, believe it or not). For info, visit www.wilco.world.net.

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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

BROOKLYN FLEA MARKET: Free. 10 am-5 pm. 194 St. St., between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Greenwood Heights. (212) 596-9614. www.brooklynflea.com

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: Free. 11 am-6 pm. 129 N. 5th St. between Bedford Avenue and Bay Street in Williamsburg. www.artistsandfleas.com

BROOKLYN INDIE MARKET: Free. 11 am-7 pm. Smith Street and Union Street in Carroll Gardens. www.brooklynindiemarket.com

OTHER

FILM, "WILLIAM KUNSTLER DISTURBING THE UNIVERSE": Documentary about controversial lawyer. Free. 12:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene). (718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

TALK, DADS, DUDES, AND DONGS: Panel discussion on fatherhood and feminism. With Gloria Feldt, Kristal Brent Zook, Deborah Singal, Courtney L. Martin, Susan Faludi, Jessica Valenti and Trey Ellis. Free. 2 pm. Brooklyn Museum (200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights). (718) 638-5000. www.brooklynmuseum.org

MERMAID PARADE: Annual costume extravaganza. Free. 2 pm. Surf Avenue and W. 21st Street in Coney Island. www.coneyisland.com/mermaidshunt

FILM, "HUMFOXY": Sex comedy by Lynn Shelton. \$11. 6 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene). (718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

JELLO MOLD COMPETITION: Designers present their "usual jello" designs. Free. 6-10 pm. The Governors Studio Space (119 Eighth St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus). www.gowanusstudio.org/jello

TWILIGHT TATTOO: Colorful military pageant. Bring a blanket or chair. Free. 4 pm. Bay Eighth Field (Seventh Avenue and Coney Avenue in Bath Beach). (718) 630-4703. www.hamilton.army.mil

FILM, "IN THE LOOP": Political satire by Armando Iannucci. \$11. 9 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene). (718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

SUN, JUNE 21

Father's Day

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

STREET FAIR: Seventh Heaven festival. Free. 11 am-6 pm. Seventh Avenue between Flatbush Avenue and 16th Street in Park Slope.

TOUR, BOERUM HILL: Walking tour led by Joe Swabak. Organized by the Municipal Art Society of New York. \$15. 11 am. (Hanson Place and Ashland Place in Boerum Hill). (212) 933-2073. www.msn.org/tours

KAYAK RED HOOK: Canoe or kayak within the protected park pier area and help clean the shoreline. Free. 1-5 pm. Valentino Pier Park (Coffey Street, near Ferris Street in Red Hook). www.redhookboaters.org

PERFORMANCE

MAKE MUSIC NEW YORK: Outdoor concert with bands from the Willie Mae Rock Camp for Girls. Free. Noon. Brooklyn Historical Society (128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights). (718) 222-4111. www.makemusicny.org

MUSIC, KENN LOWY: Free. 1 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park (Plymouth Street and Main Street in DUMBO). www.makemusicny.org

THEATER, "EXIT, PURSUED BY BEARS": 2 pm. See Friday, June 19.

BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL: Free. 2-5 pm. Calvert Green Urban Meadow (19 President St. at Van Brunt Street in Columbia Street Waterfront). (973) 751-9247. myspace.com/redhookjazzfest

MUSIC, FOLKLORE URBANO: Free (with admission). 2 pm. Brooklyn Museum (200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights). (718) 638-5000. www.brooklynmuseum.org

ORGAN DUETS: Iris and Carsten Lenz perform four-handed concert. With video projection of the organ console. Free. 2 pm. Zion German Evangelical Lutheran Church (125 Henry St. at Clark Street in Brooklyn Heights). (718) 852-2433. www.ziongelc.org

MAKE MUSIC NEW YORK: Barbecue with live music from the Yes Way, Avation Orange, Medium Cool and Sigmond Dried. Free. 2-8 pm. 3rd Ward (195 Morgan Ave. at 5th Street in Bushwick). (718) 715-4961. www.3rdward.com

BLACK BOX NEW PLAY FESTIVAL: See Friday, June 19.

THEATER, "IN CONCLUSIVE WOMAN": 3 pm. See Friday, June 19.

CLASSICAL CONCERT: Vox are Quartet. 3 pm. See Saturday, June 20.

OUTDOOR OPERA: Includes premiere of "Songa from the P Train." Gilda Lyons's new song-cycle based on the poetry of Brooklyn schoolchildren. Part of Make Music New York Festival. Free. 3 pm. Fort Greene Park, Mary's Monument (Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park in Fort Greene). www.operaprojects.org/events

THEATER, "SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE - RX": 4 pm. See Saturday, June 20.

MAKE MUSIC NEW YORK: Block party with all-mega-power performance by Alan Cohen Experience and Golden Bloom. Plus food, dancing and more. Free. 4-10 pm. Cuy Lounge (276 Bedford Ave. at N. Fifth Street in Williamsburg). www.myspace.com/megaphonica

ACCORDION CONCERT: Famous Accordion Orchestra and Man Squeeze Accordion Orchestra. Free. 4:30 pm. Old Stone House (336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope). (718) 768-3195. www.



Hop to it: Pharoahe
Munch plays the Brooklyn Hip Hop Festival at Empire Fulton Ferry State Park on June 20.

theoddhouse.org

THEATER, "AFTERNOON PLAYLAND": Part of the Antidepressant Festival. \$15. 5-8 pm. Brick Theater (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). (718) 907-6189. www.bricktheater.com

THEATER, "...AND THE FEAR CRACKED OPEN": Part of the Antidepressant Festival. \$15. 8 pm. Brick Theater (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). (718) 907-6189. www.bricktheater.com

SALES AND MARKETS

PS 321 FLEA MARKET: See Saturday, June 20.

BROOKLYN FLEA MARKET: See Saturday, June 20.

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: See Saturday, June 20.

BROOKLYN INDIE MARKET: See Saturday, June 20.

FARMERS MARKET: Free. 11 am-5 pm. J.J. Byrne Park (Fifth Avenue and Fourth Street in Park Slope).

BROOKLYN FLEA: Free. 11 am-6 pm. Under the Brooklyn Bridge (Water Street and Noor Street in DUMBO). www.brownstone.com

OTHER

VANDERBILT AVENUE GOES CAR-FREE: With live music, art, kids activities and more. Free. Noon-5 pm. (Vanderbilt Avenue and Coney Place and Dean Street in Prospect Heights). (718) 398-7300. www.pdn.org

JUNETEENTH BLOCK PARTY

"CELEBRATION": Free. Noon-8 pm. MacDonough Street (between Lewis Avenue and Marcus Garvey Boulevard in Bedford-Stuyvesant). (212) 801-3411. www.magn.org

FILM, "HUMFOXY": 12:30 pm. See Saturday, June 20.

FILM, "EVERYTHING STRANGE AND NEW": \$11. 3:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene). (718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

BROOKLYN CYCLES VS. STATEN ISLAND: \$6-\$15. 5 pm. Kips Bay Park (1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th Street in Coney Island). (718) 449-8497. www.brooklyn-cycles.com

FILM, "REESWAX": Indie legal thriller by Andrew Bur-

jabak. \$11. 6:15 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene). (718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

FILM, "SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER": Outdoor screening. Free. 8 pm. Hudson Outpost (257 Fulton St. at Portland Avenue in Fort Greene). (718) 558-9500. www.ecosystem.com

FILM, "THIRSONY": Drama about notorious British prisoner. \$11. 9 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene). (718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

MON, JUNE 22

READING, ELIAN WALD: Author of "How the Beatles Destroyed Rock 'N' Roll: An Alternative History of American Popular Music." Free. 7 pm. BookCourt (163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill). (718) 875-3677. www.bookcourt.org

FILM, "BIG FAN": 9:30 pm. See Friday, June 19.

TUES, JUNE 23

BOOK RELEASE PARTY: Featuring multiple authors from "Heavy Rotation" twenty writers on the albums that changed their lives. Free. 7 pm. BookCourt (163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill). (718) 875-3677. www.bookcourt.org

BROOKLYN CYCLES VS. HUDSON VALLEY: Barack Obama bobblehead night. \$6-\$15. 7 pm. Kips Bay Park (1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th Street in Coney Island). (718) 449-8497. www.brooklyn-cycles.com

READING, JANCEE DUNN: Author of "Why is My Mother Calling a Tappan? And Other Questions I Wish I Never Had to Ask." Free. 7:30 pm. Word (126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint). (718) 383-0060. wordbrooklyn.wordpress.com

TOUR, BOERUM HILL PUB

WALK: Learn about neighborhood history, and enjoy drink or two. Sponsored by the Boerum Hill Association. \$10. 7:30 pm. Meet outside Trader Joe's (Court Street and Atlantic Avenue in Boerum Hill). (646) 320-5657.

THEATER, "BIG GIRLS CLUB DANCE PRINCESS SHOW": Part of the Antidepressant Festival. \$15. 8 pm. Brick Theater (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg). (718) 907-6189. www.bricktheater.com

MUSIC, "THE MEDIUM": OpenAggNY presents Gian Carlo Menotti's most opera. \$20. 8 pm. Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church (85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene). (718) 312-8064. www.openaggny.com

FILM, "EVERYTHING STRANGE AND NEW": 9:30 pm. See Sunday, June 21.

WED, JUNE 24

FILM, "BROCK KNIGHT": "GOOD TIMES WILL NEVER BE THE SAME."

See 9 DAYS on page 11

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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 10

Documentary by Jody Lee Lips. \$11. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100). www.bam.org

READING, CHRISTOPHER BENAL: Author of "The Whole Five Feet: What the Great Books Taught Me About Life, Death, and Pretty Much Everything Else." Free. 7 pm. BookCourt (163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 975-3677). www.bookcourt.org

READING, FRED KAPLAN: Author of "1959: The Year Everything Changed." Free. 7 pm. Barnes & Noble (207 Seventh Ave. at Fifth Street in Park Slope, (917) 559-4703)

THEATER, "LE MIRAGE": 7:30 pm. See Saturday, June 20

THEATER, "IN CONCLUSIVE WOMAN": 8 pm. See Friday, June 19

FILM, "SORRY, THANKS": Romantic comedy by David Sokol. \$11. 9:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100). www.bam.org

THURS. JUNE 25

SPANISH HARMON ORCHES- TRA: Part of the BAM Rhythm & Blues Festival. Free. Noon. MetroTech Commons/Wyke Avenue and Jay Street in Downtown Brooklyn, www.bam.org

READING, JACKIE BAT- TENFIELD: Author of "The Artist's Guide: How to Make a Living Doing What You Love." Free. 4 pm. 3rd Ward (195 Morgan Ave. at Stuy Street in Bushwick, (718) 715-4901). www.3rdward.com

ART OPENING: Art inspired by Spike Lee. Part of the Brooklyn Honors Spike Lee Festival. Free. 6 pm. Sala Gallery (1 University Plaza at Willoughby Street in Downtown Brooklyn) www.wheresmarts.com

FILM, "THE EXPLODING GIRL": Unconventional love story. \$11. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100). www.bam.org

THEATER, "ADVENTURE QUEST": Part of the Anti-depressant Festival. \$15. 7 pm. Brick Theater (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189). www.bricktheater.com

MUSIC, FEMI KUTU AND THE POSITIVE FORCE: With Melvin Gibbs. Elevated. \$15. 8:30 pm. Prospect Park band shell (Enter park at Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Prospect Park, www.brickonline.org/collabrate)

READING, ALYSSA KATZ: Author of "Our Lost How Real Estate Came to Own Us." Free. 7 pm. BookCourt (163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 975-3677). www.bookcourt.org

TALK, THE FILMS OF SPIKE LEE: Panel discussion. Free. 7 pm. Spike Lee Screening



Tattoo you: The Twilight Tattoo, the annual historic military pageant, will take place on June 20.

Room (1 University Plaza at Willoughby Street in Downtown Brooklyn, www.wheresmarts.com)

THEATER, "IN THE SHADOW OF THE LIGHTHOUSE": By Carolina Aguilera. Part of the Black Box New Play Festival. \$15 (\$12 seniors and children). Gallery Play- ers (197 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Prospect Park, (212) 352-3101). galleryplayers.com

THEATER, "IN CONCLUSIVE WOMAN": See Friday, June 19

JAZZ, Web. Jeff Nowell's New Trad Octet: \$20 (\$15 students). 8 pm. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083). www.bargemusic.org

FILM, "WILLIAM KUNSTLER - DISTURBING THE UNIVERSE": 9 pm. See Saturday, June 20. GIGAC Parking Lot (Lafayette Avenue and Ashland Place in Fort Greene, www.bam.org)

THEATER, "THE TALE OF THE GOOD WHISTLE": BLOWUP OF CHALLOUT'S CAUCASIAN ANOTHER AND HER OTHER CHILDREN OF A LESSER MARRIAGE CHALK CIRCLE. 9:30 pm. See Friday, June 19

FILM, "THE SQUARE": Noir thriller by Noah Edgerton. \$11. 9:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100). www.bam.org

FRI. JUNE 26

THEATER, "MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING": 6 pm. See Saturday, June 20

FILM, "FROM NIGHT IN MISSISSIPPI": \$11. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100). www.bam.org

THEATER, "SCHADEN FREUDE AND YOU": A THREE CLOWN SEMINAR. Part of the Anti-depressant Festival. \$15. 7 pm. Brick Theater (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189). www.bricktheater.com

BOOK RELEASE PARTY: Phil Witte and Mark Borthwick's "Not in Fashion."

With live music by Will Shine and Friends. Free. 7 pm. BookCourt (163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 975-3677). www.bookcourt.org

MUSIC, BLONDE REDHEAD: \$3 (suggested). 7:30 pm. Prospect Park band shell (Enter park at Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Prospect Park, www.brickonline.org/collabrate)

THEATER, "IN THE SHADOW OF THE LIGHTHOUSE": See Thursday, June 25

THEATER, "IN CONCLUSIVE WOMAN": See Friday, June 19

MUSIC, "THE MEDIUM": 8 pm. See Tuesday, June 23. Classical Concert: One World Symphony performs Samuel Barber's "Yanessa." \$40 (\$30 students and seniors). 8 pm. St. Ann & the Holy Trinity Church (157 Montague St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 462-7703). oneworldsymphony.org

FILM, "ROMAN HOLIDAY": Outdoor screening. Free. 8 pm. Empire Fulton Ferry State Park (enter at Flynn out and Main streets in DUMBO)

CLASSICAL CONCERT: St. Petersburg Quartet presents works by Schubert, Beethoven and Chopin. \$40 (\$30 seniors, \$20 students). 8 pm. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083). www.bargemusic.org

THEATER, "YOUR LITHO-PEDION"

Part of the Anti-depressant Festival. \$15. 9:30 pm. Brick Theater (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189). www.bricktheater.com

FIREWORKS:

See Friday, June 19

FILM, "REPORTER": Documentary about Times reporter Nicholas Kristof. \$11. 9:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100). www.bam.org

SAT. JUNE 27

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

GOWANUS DISCOVERY TOUR: Canoe or kayak the canal and help collect trash. Free. 8:30 pm. Gowanus Canal (Second Street and

Bond Street in Gowanus, www.gowanuscanal.org

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "SAMUEL AND CASASAR - A PERSONAL HISTORY OF THE ROBOT WAR": Part of the Anti-depressant Festival. \$15. 2 pm. Brick Theater (575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 907-6189). www.bricktheater.com

THEATER, "MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING": 3 pm. See Friday, June 26

MUSIC, ROSALIA DE SOUZA: Outdoor concert, with picnic prepared by chef Cask (Plymouth Street and Main Street in DUMBO)

THEATER, "SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE - RPT-1": 4 pm. See Saturday, June 20

THEATER, "IN CONCLUSIVE WOMAN": 5 pm. See Friday, June 19

FILM, "METROPOLIS": 3ep-kano accompanies Fritz Lang's silent masterpiece. \$15. 5:30 pm and 9:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100). www.bam.org

MUSIC, DR. DOG: With Philosophers and These United States. \$3 (suggested). 7 pm. Prospect Park band shell (Enter park at Prospect Park West and Ninth Street in Prospect Park, www.brickonline.org/collabrate)

THEATER, "...AND THE FEAR CRACKED OPEN": 8 pm. See Sunday, June 21

THEATER, "IN THE SHADOW OF THE LIGHTHOUSE": See Thursday, June 25

CLASSICAL CONCERT: St. Petersburg Quartet. See Friday, June 26

THEATER, "SCHADEN FREUDE AND YOU": 10 pm. Friday, June 26

SALES AND MARKETS

PS 321 FLEA MARKET: See Saturday, June 20

ARTISTS AND PLEAS IN MC-CABREN PARK: See Saturday, June 20

BROOKLYN FLEA: See Saturday, June 20

BROOKLYN FLEA MARKET: See Saturday, June 20

ARTISTS AND PLEAS: See Saturday, June 20

BROOKLYN INDI MARKET: See Saturday, June 20

OTHER

BROOKLYN IRISH FESTIVAL: Irish music, dancing, sports and culture. \$15 (\$10 before 4 pm, kids free). 11 am. Aqueduct Sports and Recreation, Floyd Bennett Field (3157 Flatbush Ave. in Marine Park, (718) 758-7513). aqueductsports.com

NYC ZINE FEST: Free. Noon-7 pm. Brooklyn Liquor (227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816). www.nyczinefest.org

ALL-NIGHT MOVIE MARATHONS: Choose from Diana Ross vehicles, stoner comedies, art films or movies starring future Scientists.

With party in BAMCafe. Part of BAMCafeFEST. \$15. 11:15 pm-5:15 am. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100). www.bam.org

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See Saturday, June 20

See Sunday, June 21

See Thursday, June 25

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JUNE RECOMMENDATIONS

These are Darrin's Best Buys for June!

Millaman Chardonnay
Delicious Chardonnay from one of Chile's oldest wineries... and one of its best! I discovered this winery when I was a judge in the Wines of Chile 2007 competition, and I've been a fan ever since (they took a gold medal!). Rich, ripe, smooth and tasty with a "spot-on" balance.

Sur Rosado, by Bodega Sur
Dry Rosé has become the Official Wine of the Summer! After many years (well, centuries, actually) we've caught on to the delicious dry, crisp, lively style of Rosé wines that are enjoyed all over the globe once the weather turns warm. Chill a bottle and your lunch will seem like a picnic on the grass! Wonderful with the lighter foods of summer! Nothing sweet here but the price!

Rioja Vega
Is there a better wine for grilled food than Rioja? Here is a new twist: an old famous Rioja winery making a wine that's new in style: not too high in alcohol, no heavy oak flavors, fresh fruit flavors. A modern wine from an old winery! This is a perfect summertime red, as well as a great complement to almost anything that you cook over coals. It even taste great with a bit of chili on it!

Oak Lane Shiraz, by Beau Joubert Winery
No, not one of those sweet, jammy Shiraz wines from Australia... this is a dry, medium bodied Shiraz from South Africa! What you'll taste is a ripe, fresh, vibrant flavors of fruit that a New World wines gives, but balanced by a sense of "terroir," of the minerals from the soil of the vineyard. It's the best of both worlds (and I say "delicious"?) and it's an unbelievable price!

Borgo M Friulano
This used to be called Tocai Friulano, but now it's simply Tocai... and it's simply delicious! This wine comes from the northeast corner of Italy, where acres and acres of Friulano are grown on the sunny hillsides. The cool climate gives the wine a beautiful balance and makes it an ideal "food wine." There is an enticing bouquet of pears and wildflowers with bright, crisp citrus flavors.

Villa Nozzole Chianti Classico, by Tenuta Di Nozzole
An old favorite, made in a whole new way! Villa Nozzole has been one of my favorite Chianti producers for years and years. This, their 2007 vintage, is a remarkable wine in that it is made in what winemakers call the "international-style": fresher tasting, ready to drink now, without further cellaring. This is a delightful wine, beautifully balanced and filled with flavor, and certainly not your Grandfather's Chianti.

Darrin's June Discovery Wines!

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Borgo M Friulano
This used to be called Tocai Friulano, but now it's simply Tocai... and it's simply delicious! This wine comes from the northeast corner of Italy, where acres and acres of Friulano are grown on the sunny hillsides. The cool climate gives the wine a beautiful balance and makes it an ideal "food wine." There is an enticing bouquet of pears and wildflowers with bright, crisp citrus flavors.

Villa Nozzole Chianti Classico, by Tenuta Di Nozzole
An old favorite, made in a whole new way! Villa Nozzole has been one of my favorite Chianti producers for years and years. This, their 2007 vintage, is a remarkable wine in that it is made in what winemakers call the "international-style": fresher tasting, ready to drink now, without further cellaring. This is a delightful wine, beautifully balanced and filled with flavor, and certainly not your Grandfather's Chianti.

Red White & Bubbly

211 Fifth Avenue (between Union & President)
Park Slope (718) 636-9463 www.redwhiteandbubbly.com
Open Mon-Sat: 10am-10pm, Sun: 12pm-8pm

JUNE RECOMMENDATIONS

These are Darrin's Best Buys for June!

Millaman Chardonnay
Delicious Chardonnay from one of Chile's oldest wineries... and one of its best! I discovered this winery when I was a judge in the Wines of Chile 2007 competition, and I've been a fan ever since (they took a gold medal!). Rich, ripe, smooth and tasty with a "spot-on" balance.

Sur Rosado, by Bodega Sur
Dry Rosé has become the Official Wine of the Summer! After many years (well, centuries, actually) we've caught on to the delicious dry, crisp, lively style of Rosé wines that are enjoyed all over the globe once the weather turns warm. Chill a bottle and your lunch will seem like a picnic on the grass! Wonderful with the lighter foods of summer! Nothing sweet here but the price!

Rioja Vega
Is there a better wine for grilled food than Rioja? Here is a new twist: an old famous Rioja winery making a wine that's new in style: not too high in alcohol, no heavy oak flavors, fresh fruit flavors. A modern wine from an old winery! This is a perfect summertime red, as well as a great complement to almost anything that you cook over coals. It even taste great with a bit of chili on it!

Oak Lane Shiraz, by Beau Joubert Winery
No, not one of those sweet, jammy Shiraz wines from Australia... this is a dry, medium bodied Shiraz from South Africa! What you'll taste is a ripe, fresh, vibrant flavors of fruit that a New World wines gives, but balanced by a sense of "terroir," of the minerals from the soil of the vineyard. It's the best of both worlds (and I say "delicious"?) and it's an unbelievable price!

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Borgo M Friulano

OUR OPINION

A bike lane solution

If there is any single topic (besides Atlantic Yards, see below) that gets our readers going, it's bike lanes. These seemingly innocent strips of white paint generate immediate and visceral response from drivers, merchants, residents and even the cyclists for whom the lanes are designed.

In some neighborhoods, bike lanes have been installed in the wrong place — as in the horrendous lane along the roller-derry-esque Jay Street in Downtown — while in others, there aren't enough of them. And in virtually every case, the lanes offer a false sense of security to bicyclists, motorists and pedestrians. Yes, accidents are down, but no amount of paint can protect a cyclist from a collision with a menacing automobile or save a pedestrian from a two-wheeler who speeds through a red light.

There's obviously a problem. The latest evidence comes from



MEAN Streets

The battle for Brooklyn's byways

bike-loving Park Slope, where merchants along Fifth Avenue are complaining that bike lanes are causing double-parked delivery trucks to tie up traffic and endanger bikers.

Despite our longstanding support for the city's efforts to encourage bike commuting, we agree.

Fifth Avenue is not an appropriate place for a bike lane. There are too many trucks making too many stops, too many buses, and too many cars using the avenue as a bypass of busy Fourth Avenue.

Worse, the northern portion of Fifth Avenue is too narrow for a standard bike lane, so cyclists confront the horror of having the lane

disappear north of Carroll Street — just as car traffic is backing up from Flatbush Avenue.

We do believe that the Department of Transportation's bike program has played an important role in reducing accidents and encouraging bicycling. But too many bike lanes have been laid down without sufficient understanding of how the lanes will conflict with existing conditions.

Before installing a bike lane, planners should take this common-sense quiz:

• Does the road have heavy traffic?

• Does the lane fail to get bikers safely to key destinations?

• Is there a lot of through- or two-way traffic that will conflict with the bike lane?

• Is it a busy pedestrian area?

If the answers are "yes" to all of these questions, a bike lane is clearly not appropriate in that location.

ALL DRAWN OUT

5th Ave BID: Proposed new bike lane markings



WEB CHATTER

Pro-arena editorial angers many people

Readers of The Brooklyn Paper were overwhelmingly dismayed — actually, stronger words are required — by last week's editorial supporting Bruce Ratner's now-Frank Gehry-less basketball arena plan ("Just do it," editorial, June 12). In fact, we got more comments than we've ever received on an editorial. Here's a fair synopsis:

"It's really disheartening to acknowledge the radical shift of opinion of The Brooklyn Paper about Atlantic Yards after it was purchased by Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation. Ratner has an abysmal record in Brooklyn for building truly dysfunctional eyesores such as the Atlantic Mall and the Metrotech."

Matteo, Prospect Park

"Gehry or not, Brooklyn doesn't need this arena. The economic development in this part of Brooklyn was just fine before the city and Ratner became involved. This is a land and power grab, not an opportunity for economic development. Please, spare us Brooklyn Paper's editorial crying. Crying for the corrupt and powerful is no way to live."

Charles, Park Slope

"Brooklyn has maddled along with a major league sports franchise for decades. It will do fine with or without Ratner's pick-pocketing. Good ridance to the abuse of process, lack of transparency, and backroom deals by those who don't make the borough their home."

Fredrick, Park Slope

"Wishing that a basketball arena will be an engine for economic development doesn't make it so. The city's Independent Budget Office reported two weeks ago that the arena would be a net fiscal loser. In other words, it would cost the taxpayers more than it would generate in economic activity."

Eric McClure, Park Slope

"Ugh, Gersh, what did Rupert put in your water? It would be fool-

hardly to walk away from both the economic development opportunity."

Huh? Things are definitely topsy-turvy when The Brooklyn Paper shifts for the Forest City Hangar and the New York Times condemns it."

Brokeland, Downtown

"Even the Post thinks the new design is a piece of s---, so perhaps The Paper is autonomous — tasteless, but autonomous."

Rupert Friend, Sydney

"Think about how far The Brooklyn Paper has fallen since five years ago when it was up for a Pulitzer for its Atlantic Yards coverage. Then, a new editor (Gersh Kuntzman) ordered up no long investigative articles, only "happy news," or at least only snarky news."

Paul, Park Slope

"I'm pretty sure The Brooklyn Paper used to be against eminent domain. Not anymore!"

Tony, the Block

"WTF is going on in this paper? Did aliens suck out the editor's brains or something?"

Chuck, Boerum Hill

"Just build it already. I'm out of work, my husband is out of work, and most of our friends in the building industry are out of work. Isn't

it time to move beyond legal ideals and onto putting food on the table by creating jobs? I'm glad the Gehry design is gone. It didn't fit in Brooklyn. As for The Brooklyn Paper — it's representing Brooklyn from my perspective, although I'm just a working person, not a professional critic/editor as most of you seem to be. I think some of you folks need to grow up and get jobs."

JK, Park Slope

"Brooklyn doesn't need this arena! I am a resident of Brooklyn. I do not want the arena. I feel the arena does not belong in Brooklyn. The Brooklyn Paper does not represent Brooklyn well by taking this stand."

Spidy, Bay Ridge

"Hey, JK, The Brooklyn Paper represents Rupert Murdoch! And your attitude is just what they're counting on, which is kind of suspicious, come to think of it. All of us have jobs. I'm sorry you're having trouble, but if you think putting your kids and grandkids into debt so Bruce Ratner can break another promise to you is a smart, well, you're not a banker, stock broker, or state senator, are you?"

Paul, Park Slope

"Actually, I work in the construction business and have spent years

helping to refurbish the homes that are part of Brooklyn's 'gentrification.' It just cracks me up that the same yuppie/hipsters who had no problem coming into Brooklyn and buying out the elderly and poor now have a problem with Ratner doing the same thing, just on a larger scale. No one complained when, one by one, lifelong residents were displaced. But let a corporation come in and do it, let's all start boo-booing."

JK, Park Slope

"I don't see how The Paper could advocate for building this arena by saying it's 'in the right place at the right time,' while comparing Brooklyn's lack of a sports franchise to the Bronx, Manhattan and Queens. Have you been following the recently built stadiums in the Bronx and Queens? One is noticeably empty because of its overpriced seating, and the other is named after one of the only banks that is still asking for bailouts from the government. Why not write an editorial about an alternative plan, the Unity Plan. Here's the link: www.unityplan.org."

Peter, Fort Greene

"What? Brooklyn does not need, or deserve, the proposed arena, an architectural slap in the face. This concept is ugly beyond be-

Freddy, Park Slope

"Some of you need to get some perspective. They are not putting Indian Point over there! It's your tax dollars in the new Met and Yankees stadiums, too. It's your tax dollars on some level at just about every construction site I get that you see the community benefit package as a scam. But I don't recall reading that Ratner broke into someone's house and stole the milk money from under the mattress."

Judah, Bedford-Stuyvesant

"The Paper says that the arena will

energize the area around it." So tell me how Yankee Stadium energizes 161st Street? How does Citi Field energize Willets Point? You get a big crowd that jams the surrounding streets and floods the subway. They go inside the arena to spend their money and then they leave, creating another traffic jam. If you're lucky, really really lucky, some of them stay around to drink in a couple of sports bars."

Lex, Park Slope

"I don't see how The Paper could advocate for building this arena by saying it's 'in the right place at the right time,' while comparing Brooklyn's lack of a sports franchise to the Bronx, Manhattan and Queens. Have you been following the recently built stadiums in the Bronx and Queens? One is noticeably empty because of its overpriced seating, and the other is named after one of the only banks that is still asking for bailouts from the government. Why not write an editorial about an alternative plan, the Unity Plan. Here's the link: www.unityplan.org."

Peter, Fort Greene

"What? Brooklyn does not need, or deserve, the proposed arena, an architectural slap in the face. This concept is ugly beyond be-

Paul, Park Slope

"I cannot believe that The Paper has called for going ahead on the Atlantic Yards project merely because of the reduced price tag! To simply see it as a cheaper alternative without Frank Gehry is missing the point. The point is whether the new architect has addressed the same urban design impact that was arduously and publicly debated with Gehry's design."

Christopher Chew, Park Slope

Send a letter

By e-mail: newsroom@cnglocal.com

By mail: Letters, The Brooklyn Paper, One Metrotech Center, Suite 1001, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published with the letter). Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.

If you receive care at The Brooklyn Hospital Center there's something you should know

Patients' satisfaction with their hospitals is tied to the quality of care they receive. Good outcomes depend on the number of patients for which your RN is responsible.

Recent scientific studies have found that:

- High caseloads for nurses can put patients at risk. The likelihood of a patient dying increases 31% if a nurse cares for eight patients instead of four.*
- 24% of unanticipated patient deaths and permanent loss of function are related to inadequate numbers of nurses.**
- Pressure sores, pneumonia, and postoperative and urinary tract infections were found to be significantly lower when registered nurse staffing was higher.***

*Journal of the American Medical Association (2002).

** Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (2002).

*** American Nurses Association (January 1997).

Help us to ensure quality care. Contact Dr. Richard Becker, The Brooklyn Hospital Center President and CEO, at 718-250-8005 or rbb9002@nyp.org. Tell him to increase the number of RNs caring for patients at The Brooklyn Hospital Center.

Support your Brooklyn Hospital Center Registered Nurses.

www.nysna.org



A message from the Brooklyn Hospital Center RNs and the

New York State
Nurses
ASSOCIATION



RIDIN' THE CYCLONES

By Gersh Kuntzman

Armed and dangerous

I hate to be the pine tar stain on a fresh clean uniform, but the 2009 Cyclones don't have the pedigree to win it all. But maybe, just maybe, they have the moxie.

Look, I've been riding the Cyclones for all of the team's eight seasons, and never before has the franchise bosses in Queens ever thrown out such a motley collection of ballplayers.

I'm not talking talent, personality or heart — the 2009 Cyclones have that in excess. I'm talking about what the Met scouts think of them.

Consider this, the highest draft pick on the 2009 squad is first-baseman Sam Honeck, who was plucked by the Mets in the 11th round this year (344th overall). After that, the Mets picked righty pitcher John Church in the 23rd round (704th overall), third-baseman James Schroeder in the 33rd round (1,004th overall), righty Wesley Wrenn in the 35th round (1,064th overall), lefty Lance Hoge in the 36th round (1,094 overall), and finally Brandon Sage in the 37th round (1,124th overall).

That's a grand-slam homer away from last year's draft, when seven of the Mets' top 10 picks — including three first rounders, Bradley Holt, Ike Davis and Reese Havens — all started in Brooklyn. Now, we all know plenty of Major Leaguers who weren't drafted with the elite players — future Hall of Famer Mike Piazza, for example, didn't go until the 62nd round! — but a high draft position is at least an indication that a team's scouts are excited about the young prospect.

So this year's Cyclones aren't a scout's Dream Team, but returning outfielder John Servidio thinks this team is actually better than last year's squad.

"No, we don't have any big draft picks, but it's better for the team," he said. "We all start out as equals and we all have to prove ourselves on every pitch. No one 'owns' this team or gets treated differently. We're all in it together."

AND Pitching coach Rick Tomlin told me he's more than happy with his five starters, Collin McHugh (who will go opening night), Mark Coboon, Angel Cuan, Brandon Moore and Jim Fuller.

"These five guys all throw three pitches for strikes," Tomlin said. "They're always around the plate. The key will be making sure that they're consistent with the fastball. But I have confidence in all of them. It's a great staff."

For his part, manager Pedro Lopez said he's looking for aggressive, hard-nosed baseball.

"These players know that I like an aggressive style of play and I want to see the players do the little things," he said. "We're not going to win with three-run homers in the eighth inning. In this league, games are won and lost in the baselines."

They certainly aren't won at the draft.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

THE BROOKLYN PAPER

PARKING GARAGE OPENS AT GAP

GGMC Parking has just opened up a new garage in the Richard Meier building at 1 Eastern Pkwy. The garage is currently offering a rate of \$225 for monthly parking.

GGMC garages are open 24 hours, secure and professional.

GGMC Parking (1 Eastern Parkway, between Plaza Street East and St. Johns Place in Prospect Heights, (718) 398-2518 or (212) 996-6363 x32). For info, visit www.ggmcparking.com.

The best kind of printer

Rolling Press is a family run, commercial offset print house in Park Slope that brings together environmentally friendly methods, ethical practices, and a holistic approach to sustainable communication.

There are lots of stand-out reasons why Rolling Press is different. For one thing, the company prints with vegetable inks. And Rolling Press uses a variety of certified and recycled papers, run through a chemical-free production process.

Even the electricity comes from wind turbines.

But more important, Rolling Press is joining a new view of how this world can be. At Rolling Press, every decision is made with a purpose. From the papers, to the inks, and the energy to power the presses, everything must ultimately leave a positive or neutral imprint.

If you share these values, Rolling Press is your partner. Give Eugene Lee a call to discuss your ideas for brochures, postcards, catalogs, magazines and marketing materials.

Rolling Press (15 Denton Pl., between Carroll and First streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 625-6800). For info, visit www.rollingpress.com.

Summer at Huggs

Children frolic in the private, spacious backyard at Huggs Day School, which is filled with a water play area, a child-sized playhouse, all kinds of riding toys and lots of other fun playground equipment.

Classrooms are large, bright, and airy, and contain a myriad of toys, games and equipment that would fulfill any child's fantasy. All of this is available to you right in the heart of Park Slope.

Summer at Huggs Day School is a very exciting time of year for young children. Camp provides special hot weather activities for youngsters ages 2 through 7. Schedules are flexible and include two, three, four or five mornings, afternoons, or full days. Groups are led by warm, caring and experienced teachers.

Huggs Day School was established in 1982, offering outstanding preschool experiences for young children for over 25 years. Huggs provides a warm, nurturing environment in which social and emotional well-being are of prime importance. The teachers help each child to feel proud of him or herself and confident in relationships with peers. Many long-lasting friendships have begun at Huggs.

Contact Randle Bader or Gary Siegel to enroll your child in the Huggs summer camp.

Huggs Day School (763 President St., between Sixth and Seventh avenues in Park Slope, (718) 230-5255).

EYE of the STORM

The world's best Cyclones coverage

Wait 'til this year!

By Zeke Faux and Gersh Kuntzman for The Brooklyn Paper

Wait 'til, well, wait 'til tonight!

After another roller-coaster off-season of development dreams and disappointment for Coney Island, the area is born again because there's new grass on the field of KeySpan Park.

The Cyclones are back! Brooklyn's mini-Mets will begin their 2009 season with a home opener against the hated Staten Island Yankees at 7 pm.

The rivalry is as intense as ever. Last year, the Cyclones didn't even make the New York-Penn League playoffs, falling to the baby Bombers in the McNamara Division by four games. And the Cyclones haven't won it all since their inaugural season in 2001.

This year, the slate is clean, with an entirely new coaching staff — manager Pedro Lopez, hitting coach Jack Voight and pitching coach Rick Tomlin — leading the Cyclones' quest for glory. That glory will be sought without 2008 ace Brad Holt, who has taken his 100-mph heater to Double-A Binghamton, and '08 wins leader Scott Shaw, who was promoted to St. Lucie in the Florida State League.

Ain't it always the case in minor-league ball?

General Manager Steve Cohen says the Cyclones will miss their former stars, but he's confident Brooklyn's new skipper, who's in just his second season with the Amaz-



CLONING AROUND: This year's prospects include (left to right) John Church, Brandon Sage, Alex Gregory, Joey August, Wes Wrenn (throwing ball), Lance Hoge, James Schroeder, Sam Honeck.

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"Pedro is a great manager and a good baseball person," Cohen said. "The Mets organization sent him here because he's a good teacher."

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Lots of fun all summer

for The Brooklyn Paper

The Cyclones have packed their summer schedule with promotions in tune with Coney's honky-tonk heritage. Here are our favorites:

• This Sunday, June 21, check out the "Bellies and Baseball" event, at which the team will invite pregnant women to get their unborn children hooked on baseball. There will be a "Craving Station," featuring pickles and anchovies, and a pre-game Lamaze class. Any mother who promises to name her child "Brooklyn" or "Cy" gets a season ticket for life.

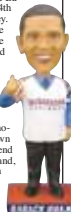
• On June 23, the "Barack Obama Cyclones" will take the field in jerseys inspired by The Brooklyn Paper's historic election-week headline. The first 2,500 fans through KeySpan's turnstiles will receive Barack Obama bobbleheads, featuring the 44th president wearing a No. 44 Cyclones jersey.

There will be "universal health care" (free Band-Aids), and any plumber named Joe will get a free ticket (plus one for a friend to, naturally, "spread the wealth").

"We're saving four seats for the president behind home plate," said Cohen, who really did invite the president, though he has not heard back.

• The Cyclones will be hand-pressed to top the unlikely combination of promotions scheduled for an Aug. 3 showdown with Hudson Valley. Not only is Met legend Darryl Strawberry scheduled to be on hand, but it's also Medieval Times Night, which features a jousting demonstration.

A full schedule is at brooklyn.cyclones.com/tickets/promo.



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